

THE LIBYAN CIVIL WAR: CRITICAL VIEWS

DO YOU KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG?

The Libyan Civil War*: Critical Views

Jihad in the service of McWorld.

* The Libyan Regime-Change Campaign and Naqba of 2011 was never a "civil war" (early and poor name choice) and is no longer the sole subject of this site (see [here](#))

Warning: This site contains images and graphic descriptions of extreme violence and/or its effects. It's not as bad as it could be, but is meant to be shocking. Readers should be 18+ or a mature 17 or so. There is also some foul language occasionally, and potential for general upsetting of comforting conventional wisdom. Please view with discretion.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2014

Fail Caesar: Exposing the Anti-Syria Photo Propaganda

November 8, 2014

last edits Nov. 21

This story of "Caesar" - the code-named defector with a supposed 50,000 photos worth of proof the "Assad regime" was genociding its Sunni political prisoners - warrants a series of posts (number of parts unsure but low) and so, as they come up:

- Fail Caesar Part 1: Protecting his Identity - From Whom? (if his story of employment by the Syrian government is true, the code-name and other precautions couldn't possibly hide his identity from them. So ... why all the secrecy then?)
- Fail Caesar Part 2: Re-Considering the Victims (if we're willing to question what he says about the dead men documented during the Syrian conflict, what else might explain the evidence?)
- That may be enough, unless there's some new development...

He's widely advertised as totally winning, a hero for truth and justice, risking his life. But his life might be a work of fiction. No one can really know yet who the victims are and who killed them. But over the last ten months, I and teammates at A Closer Look On Syria have compiled some good analysis and questions on the page [Torture Photos from "Caesar"](#) and [its talk page](#). This research is the starting basis for the material in the posts linked above. From the main page there,

the overview:

On January 21, 2014, the media grew abuzz with startling news - first broken the day before - of "industrial scale" torture, abuse, and murder of at least 11,000 Syrian prisoners by their government. Such claims were nothing new, but this time they were supported by actual photographs and some kind of study by professional investigators of such crimes. The unusually strong claims and noted parallels with Nazi death camps made waves, among other places, at the Geneva 2 peace conference which began in Montreaux the following day.

The claims were lodged originally by an alleged defector - code-named "Ceasar" - who says he was employed by the Syrian government as a morgue photographer. Over the first 29 months of the Syrian conflict, he says he collected copies of 55,000 digital images he says show about 11,000 dead victims, all of them executed prisoners of the Syrian government. Sometime in August, 2013, "Caesar" says he stopped taking new pictures, faked his own death, and escaped with his trove, as he says, "in order to stop the systematic torture." With funding from the Qatari royal family, the defector's narrative was bolstered with the hire of British law firm and a team of three war crimes prosecutors. The latter drafted a report - stamped "CONFIDENTIAL" but ultimately released on January 20th via Western Media in France, Turkey, the US, and UK. (see below) - that analyzed the photos, and passed on the back-story "Caesar" provided. The primary media reports added little to no skepticism, and political leaders have of course added none of their own as they reflexively push their well-known anti-Assad agendas.

It should be considered there are two parts to this evidence package; the actual photographs, and the alleged photographer's explanation of what they show. The 30+ images published, at least, do show systematic abuse of captive men, including signs of torture, starvation, and sometimes execution. While we cannot know how representative the few publicized photos truly

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SOME IMPORTANT POINTS

- **Site "Manifesto"** - who runs it and contributes, what's it about, and stuff.
- "Technical Difficulties?" Site not loading, problems of that sort? The site is to be seen, so please let me know, at that link, if it's not!

The War, general thoughts

This is not my major focus, and others have better thoughts, but here are a few of mine:

- Motives - you really think this is just to protect some innocent people? In particular, how about...
- Oil.
- **Libya's Free Market Future**
- A Neat Trade for Libyans?
- "Not This Way" - on the plight of Tripoli's loyalists after the capitol's fall
- **The War Continues:** Semi-useful running commentary on the war in central Libya, overtaken by...
- **Situation in Sirte: Neither Good Nor Great** - a truly appalling string of war crimes mark the moral inverse climax of the war so far.
- On the "Gaddafi's Dead!!!" Party

A pretext of fiction

Crimes against humanity - and logic - blamed on the Gaddafi regime and used to justify the war:

- **Massacring Protesters: Really?** - Important! Even the part about shooting demonstrators isn't looking so certain.
- "Bombing His Own People."
- The Military Defected.
- African Mercenaries: In Mythology and Reality
- Rape Allegations Ganging Up on Gaddafi
- The Sniped Tykes of Misrata?

are, it seems criminal abuses are being carried out in Syria, a problem that merits alarm and attention. "Caesar's" story may be true, but for all we know, many of these bodies passing through this morgue could have different true stories. For example, some of them (like the apparent Christian man in image #25 - see list here) could be of civilians hostages taken by rebel forces, executed and then dumped, and simply being documented by the government. It's only by trusting Caesar that one can be sure that's not even part of the picture.

The reasons to question or even doubt the defector's word are many, starting with the baseless claim that any code-name would protect him or his family from the Syrian government, if his employment story is true. All it really does is keep his identity secret from those he's appealing to, and suggests he may not be at all who he claims. [3] But these reasons have been ignored in a push by the powerful to indict and harm the Syrian government again, this time over distressingly ambiguous morgue photos.

"Caesar" has arguably been given more credibility than "Curveball" and "Nayirah" combined. Nonetheless, this project has proven less effective than some may have expected; throughout 2014 it continued with diminishing efforts to spur direct, perhaps military action against the Syrian government. The first release on January 20, as mentioned, complicated the peace talks starting on the 22nd. As the conflict ground on, some photos were presented to the UN Security Council in April in another fruitless effort to secure firmer action against the Syrian government. Some images plus the defector appeared before the US House of Representatives foreign policy council in late July. Then a select few images were displayed at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in October. These plus frequent media exclusives and interviews with countless uncritical echoes, as a New York Times article lamented on October 31, had so far "spurred outrage, but not action." [4]

The cartoon below shows the one victim of the few shown so far that is apparently a Syrian Christian, a segment of the populace that the Sunni extremist anti-government rebels often kidnap and execute, for their religion and/or for supporting the government and resisting the rebellion. Other targeted classes, by the way, are Alawi, Shia, Kurds, and the majority of Syria's Sunnis who also support the government. They don't usually sport tattoos like this, so it's hard to tell whether or not you're looking at one, once he's been murdered in a photo that rebels wound up with in the end (if not from the start).



Posted by Caustic Logic at 5:35 AM Labels: "Caesar", defectors, propaganda, Syria, torture

No comments:

Post a Comment

Comments welcome. Stay civil and on or near-topic. If you're at all stumped about how to comment, please see [this post](#).

- Killing soldiers who refused to kill civilians
- Killing and **burning** soldiers who refused to kill civilians
- 1,200 Bodies Buried at Abu Salim Prison. Really?
- Violating "no-fly" over Benghazi
- Gaddafi Faking funerals, etc.

Signs of pre-planning and conspiracy

- Nouri al-Mesmari, and Paris
- Seven Frenchmen Escape Benghazi
- Departures From Protocol at the UN

Bad things about the rebels

- Rebel Atrocity Videos
- Anti-Black Racism Among Libyan Rebels
- Refugees and Human Trafficking
- Dernah and the al Qaeda Link
- Al Qaeda's Flag Over Benghazi

Massacres blamed on the Gaddafi regime, and all (or most) actually perpetrated by rebels and allies, says the evidence presented at each link.

- **Behind the Scenes of the al-Baida Massacre** - 22 or 130 victims, depending how you read it
- **The Qawalish water basin massacre** - six victims
- **The Qawalish Tree Farm Massacre** (aka the Qala'a Massacre)
- 34 victims
- **The Tawergha Massacre** - app. 150 victims
- **The Tripoli Massacres** {masterlist} - probably **over 1,200** victims revealed so far. Several grisly crime scenes across loyalist Tripoli, all tallied to my ability at the main link, many expanded in posts linked there.

- Sub-post: **Abu Salim Trauma Hospital** Of special importance among these is this bloody and "mysterious" episode. At least 75 victims (perhaps 200 or more).
- Sub-post: **The Khamis Brigade** **Shed Massacre** (the one with 53 charred skeletons). Slower to come into focus, this one is shaping up as a sickening complex of barbarity and deceit. 106 victims now official, 51 survivors, perhaps about 150 or more really dead.

- **The Sirte Massacres** {masterlist} - At least 300 acknowledged so far, and a mass grave with well over 400... Numerous brazen mass-executions, torture, burning, mutilation, occurring in areas the rebels controlled.
- **The Bin Jawad Massacre(s)** - app. 170, reported

Caustic Logic Libya Truth videos:
See my Youtube channel, **Lockerbie Divide**.

Framing Libya in the Past:
The **Lockerbie Divide**, namesake of the Youtube channel

box last updated April 17, 2012

A TEAM IS AN AWESOME THING!